

AGM 2026 Notice

Chairmans' Letter and Members' Weekend



PLANT HERITAGE NATIONAL AGM

The national Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be a zoom meeting (online) on Thursday 23rd April 2026, 6pm. See details on pages 2-4. The AGM agenda, trustee details and a proxy voting form are included in this leaflet. This zoom meeting is open and free to all members of Plant Heritage. Enjoy a short talk by Helen Barlow on her National Plant Collection of citrus trees in Bedfordshire. To book your place and receive the zoom link, please visit the website: plantheritage.org.uk/events, or email comms@plantheritage.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM SIR RODERICK NEWTON, CHAIRMAN

This is an exciting year for Plant Heritage as we take plant conservation to the heart of the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. Find out about the people and plants involved in your *Spring Journal*, plus lots of other fascinating articles. The National Collections Directory has details of all National Collections, including 41 approved last year. What a huge achievement this is.

Please do join us for our national AGM to meet our Trustees and to hear the full report of last year's activities and accounts. The AGM also gives us an opportunity to say thank you to you, for your hard work and support for our conservation work and your fundraising efforts. I look forward to meeting many of you in person at our Members' Weekend in June.

Best wishes for a good growing season

Roderick

Roderick Newton, Chairman

MEMBERS' WEEKEND 2026

Our Members' get together is kindly hosted by the Plant Heritage Suffolk Group. Join us for dinner and a talk on Friday 5 June in Bury St Edmunds Guildhall.

On Saturday, tour Helmingham Hall gardens, enjoy lunch and talks at nearby Framsdon Hall Barn plus National Collection holder displays, and plants from specialist nurseries. The Plant Exchange will also be taking place, but you do not need to be involved in that to come. There will be plenty more gardens and places to visit on Sunday.



Helmingham Hall and Gardens

See plantheritage.org.uk/events to book your place and the programme

Notice of the Annual General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 41st AGM of Plant Heritage will take place on Thursday 23 April at 6pm to transact the following business:

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the previous meeting to be agreed and matters arising.

2. Reports and accounts
To receive and consider the report from the trustees for the year ended 31 October 2025 along with the accounts and the auditors' report

3. Auditors - to reappoint Warner Wilde as the auditors

4. Auditors' remuneration - to authorise the trustees to set the level of remuneration.

5. Appointment of charity trustees

- To confirm the re-appointment of Sir Roderick Newton*
- To confirm the re-appointment of David Mathers*
- To confirm the re-appointment of Kavita Kapoor*
- To confirm the appointment of Philip Wilson. If approved, Philip Wilson will take over as honorary treasurer from Gareth Morgan, who will remain a trustee.

6. Members proposed resolutions. Details will be given once any proposed resolutions are received. Proposed resolutions should be sent to the Chairman by noon on Weds 8 April 2026.

7. Any other business. To deal with any matters raised at the meeting.

The final agenda will be published on the website on Weds 8 April 2026

By order of the Board of Trustees of the charity
Roderick Newton, Chairman, 1 March 2026

Email: chairman@plantheritage.org.uk

*In line with the Articles of Association, one third of Trustees stand down by rotation and may seek re-election at each AGM.



Emma Crawford

Emma has gardening worked in media for many years and

previously worked as a gardener. Her foundation in horticulture and Kew diploma led to her role as horticultural editor for *Gardeners' World* magazine. She is passionate about conserving the diversity of plants.



Claire Farrer

Claire worked as an NHS GP and has recently finished an MSc in

biodiversity & conservation at Kew and Queen Mary University. She is part of the Sussex group shared National Collection of Noel Burr *Narcissus* and helps to maintain two other collections.



Sally Flatman

Sally is an experienced BBC radio producer who has also been the BBC's

charity appeals adviser. She presents and produces *Our Plant Stories*, a podcast that combines her love of audio and plants. She volunteers in the garden at the Museum of Homelessness in London.



John Humphreys

John worked in the agricultural industry. He and his wife

love gardening and learnt much from his great uncle, the head gardener at Cefn Park near Wrexham, North Wales. John is also a trustee of Caring Together North Yorkshire. John is a member of Plant Heritage Yorkshire Group's committee and chairs the Membership and Supporters committee nationally.



Jasmine Jahromi

Jasmine has experience leading humanitarian

strategy, including work with communities on sustainable agricultural practices and the benefits of gardening to improve nutrition and wellbeing. Based in London she is constantly finding new ways to squeeze more plants into her modest urban garden.



Kavita Kapoor

Kavita is a multi-award-winning technologist, and she is

passionate about education and emerging technology. Her career has spanned large-scale organisations to start-ups. Kavita dedicates time to growing a wide range of edible plants in her spare time.

How to exercise your vote

All members of Plant Heritage are entitled to vote on the charity's business.

The draft Annual Report and Accounts as well as voting forms will be posted on our website at www.plantheritage.org.uk/annual-report

If you cannot attend the AGM, you can vote by using the proxy form overleaf, or you can do a postal vote. Please send in your voting form by mail in an envelope marked 'AGM vote' to Stonepine, Wisley Lane, Wisley, Woking, GU23 6QD or send a photo/scan of the form as an attachment to an email to comms@plantheritage.org.uk with AGM vote in the title. Thank you.



Sir Roderick Newton - Chair

Roderick, a retired High Court judge, is a keen gardener and has a

National Plant Collection of bearded *Iris* (pre-1950) as well as many other rare and unusual plants. Roderick was appointed a trustee in December 2024 and became chairman in October 2025, replacing Cecilia Bufton.



Jim Marshall -Vice Chair

Jim, an avid gardener, spent 25 years working for the National

Trust as a gardens advisor. He holds 2 National Collections, and exhibited his carnations at Hampton Court, winning gold medals. A past chairman of the Suffolk group. Member of RHS Herbaceous Plant Committee.



Gareth Morgan -Treasurer

Gareth has worked in the charity sector for many years in senior

finance roles. He has also worked in senior executive roles responsible for Finance, IT, HR, risk, legal and governance and property and procurement. He is developing a crazy hillside wildlife friendly garden.



David Mathers

David, with 35 years' experience in banking and finance, is Vice Chair of the

RHS Orchid Expert Group and co-founded The Mathers Foundation which has six National Collections and was awarded the 2024 Brickell Award for its ex situ conservation work. He is also trustee of the Chelsea Physic Garden.



Della Weight

Della has a professional background in fundraising and strategic planning

supporting not-for-profits in the UK and internationally. Her passion is gardening, including as secretary of the Northiam Horticultural Society and Society and Friend of Great Dixter House and Gardens



Philip Wilson

Philip, a chartered accountant, ran his own business and worked as

finance/operations director for an international charity. A keen plantsman and fellow of the Linnean Society, he volunteered at botanic gardens and studied conservation and ecology. He is trustee treasurer for 3 other charities.

www.plantheritage.org.uk | 01483 447540

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Plant Heritage, First Floor Offices, Stone Pine, Wisley, Woking, Surrey, GU23 6QD





Plant Heritage, Annual General Meeting, 23 April 2026 Proxy form

Registered Charity No: 1004009/SC041785 Registered Company No 2222953

NAME:	MEMBERSHIP NO:
ADDRESS:	

I, being a member of the Charity, appoint the Chairman of the meeting, OR the following person: as my proxy to exercise all or any of my rights to attend, speak and vote on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting. I direct my proxy to vote on the following resolutions as I have indicated by marking the appropriate box with an 'X'. I also authorise my proxy to vote (or abstain from voting) as they think fit in relation to any other matter which is properly put before the meeting. Where no name is inserted, proxy will be given to the Chair.

Signed Date

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Approval of the Accounts & reports of the charity Trustees and auditors			
To re-appoint Warner Wilde as the auditors			
To authorise the charity Trustees to set the level of the auditors' fees			
APPOINTMENT OF CHARITY TRUSTEES			
To confirm the re-appointment of Sir Roderick Newton			
To confirm the re-appointment of Kavita Kapoor			
To confirm the re-appointment of David Mathers			
To confirm the appointment of Philip Wilson			

GUIDANCE NOTES:

1. You are entitled to appoint a proxy to exercise all or any of your rights to attend, speak and vote at our Annual General Meeting using this form.
2. Every member present in person or by proxy at our AGM has one vote on a show of hands.
3. Appointment of a proxy does not stop you from attending the meeting and voting in person. If you have appointed a proxy and attend the meeting in person, your proxy appointment will be automatically terminated.
4. Where you appoint as your proxy someone other than the Chairman, you are responsible for ensuring that they attend the meeting and are aware of your voting intentions. If you wish your proxy to make any comments on your behalf, you will need to appoint someone other than the Chairman and give them the relevant instructions directly.
5. To direct your proxy how to vote on the resolutions, mark the appropriate box with an 'X'.
6. If no voting indication is given, your proxy will vote or abstain from voting as his or her discretion.
7. **To appoint a proxy, a hard copy of this notice must be completed and signed by you and sent by post or email (scanned) to be received by the charity no later than 5pm on Wednesday 8 April 2026.** Copies of this leaflet can be downloaded by members from our website at www.plantheritage.org.uk/annual-report